TRENDS

4/25/88

A3275-2

ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

Office of Information
and Public Affairs
50 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001
(202) 639-2555

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, April 21, 1988 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended April 16 totaled 19.3 billion ton-miles, up 14.0 percent from the 16.9 billion carried in the comparable week of 1987. The 1987 week included the Good Friday holiday.

Cumulative volume for the first 15 weeks of 1988 was an estimated 279.4 billion ton-miles carried, up 7.1 percent from the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings originated in the week ended April 16 totaled 434,627, up 12.4 percent from the corresponding week of last year, and up 4.8 percent from the preceding week. Compared with last year, carloadings originated were up 18.1 percent in the West, and 7.5 percent in the East.

Compared with the corresponding week of last year, 17 of the 20 major commodity groups increased. Coal loadings were up by 11,484 cars (10.5 percent), grain showed a gain of 9,437 cars (38.9 percent), and motor vehicles and equipment increased by 4,973 cars (28.5 percent). Eighteen of the 20 commodity groups increased from the preceding week.

Piggyback

Piggyback traffic for the week ended April 9 totaled 103,698 trailers and/or containers, up 1.9 percent from the comparable week of 1987.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 14 weeks of the year was 1,498,662 trailers and/or containers, up 4.7 percent from 1987.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 4/16/88:

	Loadings in Week ended April 16, 1988		Change from Corresponding Week 1987			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	33,671	I	9,437	38.9	D	48	0.1
Other farm products	3,672	I	13	0.4	I	31	0.9
Metallic ores	18,436	I	210	1.2	I	1,360	8.0
Coal	121,108	I	11,484	10.5	I	3,718	3.2
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	16,830	I	1,457	9.5	I	426	2.6
Nonmetallic minerals	10,550	I	1,885	21.8	I	370	3.6
Grain mill products	10,948	I	570	5.5	I	494	4.7
Food and kindred products	11,109	I	888	8.7	I	501	4.7
Primary forest products	9,890	D	205	2.0	I	517	5.5
Lumber and wood products except furniture	8,113	D	36	0.4	I	327	4.2
Pulp, paper and allied products	12,289	D	68	0.6	I	2	0.02
Chemicals and allied products	29,391	I	3,161	12.1	I	471	1.6
Petroleum products	4,818	I	520	12.1	D	439	8.4
Stone, clay and glass products	12,074	I	1,795	17.5	I	942	8.5
Coke	6,279	I	1,512	31.7	I	256	4.3
Metals and products	10,977	I	2,345	27.2	I	679	6.6
Motor vehicles and equipment	22,416	I	4,973	28.5	I	4,007	21.8
Waste and scrap materials	9,974	I	2,265	29.4	I	1,198	13.7
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	2,557	I	98	4.0	I	145	6.0
All other carloads	79,525	I	4,789	6.4	I	4,789	6.4
Total Cars Loaded	434,627	I	48,105	12.4	I	19,746	4.8
Corresponding week of 1987	386,522						

	1988	1987	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (15 weeks)	6,213,389	5,855,491	I 6.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
14 weeks ended April 9	260.1	243.9	I 6.6
Week ended April 16	19.3	16.9	I 14.0
15 Weeks cumulative	279.4	260.8	I 7.1

#

AARt - 042188